

FLURRY IN COTTON

Government Estimate of Crop Sends Prices Skyward.

A GREAT RUSH TO BUY

Preliminary Statement Issued from the Census Bureau Places Number of Bales for the Season at 9,962,039.

A Washington special says: Preliminary returns to the bureau of statistics of the department of agriculture indicate that the actual growth of cotton in the United States in the year 1903-1904 will amount to 9,962,039 bales, of an average net weight of 490.8 pounds.

A New York special says: An unprecedented rush to buy, a sensational soaring of prices upward and the heaviest sales on record, followed the announcement on the New York cotton exchange Thursday of the agricultural department's estimate of the cotton crop of the present season, 9,962,039 bales.

At the sound of the word "Nine," indicating the number of million bales in the estimate, a scene of frantic bidding set in, the shorts in their excitement not waiting to learn that the total estimate was but 37,961 bales short of the round ten millions, and instantly prices jumped from 10 to 20 points on the first sales, the rise continuing until advances of from 30 to 40 points were registered before the close of an hour, and from 60 to 70 points before the upward movement was checked.

Then the uncovering of long cotton in tremendous volume met the advance and the realization that the estimate was practically ten million bales caused a temporary reaction, but soon an inpour of buying orders from outside markets and bullish reports sent prices upward again and at the high point reached shortly before the close December sold at 12.32, January at 12.46, March at 12.59, May at 12.57 and July at 12.56, or 75 to 87 points above the low level of the morning. The market closed strong at nearly the top, with prices net 69 to 74 points higher. Sales were estimated at 2,000,000 bales, exceeding anything before recorded, while prices broke all records for the season of the cotton year.

The cotton market opened with prices a little off from those at the closing Wednesday. The market was depressed to 11.60 for January and 11.72 for March, May and July, and there seemed to be a disposition among the bidders on both sides to postpone trading until the government report was received. When the report was read at noon the effect was electrical and the immediate clamor of bidders drowned the reading of all but the first figure of the report. Shorts did not wait to hear whether the estimate might be only one bale less than ten millions or only nine millions, but in a panic rushed to cover, and in fifteen minutes 12 cents or more was being asked for every option on the list. Although the trade had been prepared for a low estimate, an average of private estimates put forward last week by cotton exchange members being 10,353,000 bales, nothing below 10,000,000 had been anticipated and the widest buying movement in the history of the exchange ensued.

So great was the excitement with over 100 brokers seeking to buy, that at times prices were 30 to 35 points apart in different sections of the pit. The volume of business was so great and the excitement so intense that the brokers were on the verge of collapse, the maximum advance representing an enhancement in value of from \$2 to \$3.50 per bale, and the fluctuations meaning the gain or loss of fortunes. The day was also the widest one ever seen in the cotton market at New Orleans. The bureau estimate at 11 o'clock of 9,962,039 bales for this season's crop sent prices up from 90 to 91 points above Wednesday's closing figures. The confusion was so great that trading was difficult, and it was fully two minutes after the estimate was read before quotations were posted. Within four minutes prices had advanced 40 points. The advance was steady until March stood sixty points higher than the last quotations before the reading of the estimate.

Chinese Boxers Again at Work. A dispatch from St. Petersburg says a report is current in Port Arthur, originating in Chinese quarters, of an anti-Christian rising in the province of Sze Chuan.

DURAND FORMALLY RECEIVED. New Ambassador of Great Britain Feilicited by Roosevelt. Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, successor to Sir Michael Herbert as the ambassador of Great Britain to the United States, was formally received by the president at Washington Wednesday afternoon, the speeches being notably felicitous and gracious.

MUST PAY GAMBLING DEBT. Federal Judge Makes Unique Ruling Against Commission Company. Judge Elmer B. Adams, in the United States district court, at St. Louis, has ordered the Cella Commission Company, of St. Louis, to pay James Moore, of Yazoo, Miss., \$3,094.

Moore sued the company for \$2,653 and interest. The company refused to pay the debt on the ground the contract between it and Moore was a gambling contract.

COSTLY COLLEGE BURNS.

Priests and Students Leap for Life from Fourth and Fifth Stories While Flames Raged Around Them.

The Ottawa University in Ottawa, Ontario, was totally destroyed by fire early Wednesday morning. All that remains of the building, which was one of the sights of the eastern part of the city, are portions of the walls.

The loss is estimated at \$250,000, partially covered by insurance.

It will be two years before it can be rebuilt and meantime it will be impossible to get a place suitable to carry on the work of the institution. There were 450 students at the university which was a Roman Catholic institution.

Of the students about 350 were boarders and the remainder day scholars. Nearly all of the boarders were principally from New England.

While the students were at breakfast in the refectory about 7 o'clock some of them smelled smoke escaping around the pipes. In half an hour the fire made its appearance and soon afterwards the whole building was in a blaze.

The students and others who had risen early escaped easily. A number who were still abed had to take the fire escapes in their night shirts or jump from the building into blankets held out by the firemen below. The fire escapes were all on one side of the structure and those who slept on the other side could not reach them. They had to jump, some of them from the fourth and fifth stories. It was in jumping that the accidents occurred.

All of the students, however, escaped, with slight injuries, no one being seriously hurt. Two of the priests were seriously injured, and one is not expected to live. He was in the fifth story. He could not reach the escapes and had to jump. He fell on a balcony below, landing on his shoulders, and afterwards rolling to the ground, striking on his head.

AMOUNT OF COTTON GINNED.

Census Bureau Report Places Number of Bales at 7,070,437.

The census bureau Wednesday issued a report on the quantity of cotton ginned from the growth of 1903 up to and including November 14, showing total commercial bales of 7,070,437. Of these 6,519,332 were square bales, 510,550 round bales and 40,555 sea island crop bales.

There were 29,506 ginneries operated this season to and including November 14.

The cotton ginned in 1902 as reported by the census bureau, was 5,925,872 commercial bales up to October 18, and 9,311,835 commercial bales up to December 13. Counting round bales as half bales the number this year is 6,815,162. In this report no account has been taken of the quantity of linters obtained by the cotton-seed oil mills from reginning cotton seed of this year's growth, but statistics of such cotton will be included in the final report for the season.

MAFIA GANG CORRALED.

Fifteen Italians Captured by Police in Philadelphia.

A tenement house in the Italian quarter of Philadelphia was raided Wednesday by the police, who captured fifteen supposed members of the Mafia.

The raid was the result of complaints made to the police by merchants and bankers, who said they had received blackmailing letters and had been threatened with death should they refuse to comply with demands for money.

Each of the fifteen men arrested was armed with two revolvers and a stiletto. In the room were a number of pistols and ammunition.

At the hearing held later one of the men admitted that he and his companions were members of the Mafia and they were in communication with similar branches in New York, Philadelphia and Boston.

They were held in \$1,500 bail each on charges of carrying concealed deadly weapons, conspiracy and threatening to kill.

AMPLE SPACE FOR GEORGIA.

Commissioner Hughes Brings Back Good Report from St. Louis.

"Georgia will get everything she wants in the way of space at the St. Louis exposition."

So says Commissioner General Hughes, who, with Assistant Commissioner Glascock Barrett, who have just returned from St. Louis, where they have been looking after Georgia's interests. The appropriation made by the legislature not being available for matters of this kind, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Barrett went to St. Louis in behalf of the state at their own expense.

ON SHANGHAI CHARGES

Harry Olsen, at Savannah, Is Indicted by Federal Grand Jury.

Harry Olsen, white, was indicted by the United States grand jury at Savannah, Ga., on four charges of shanghaiing.

The cases are the first ever returned in the district, and are probably the first returned since the enactment of the shanghai or kidnapping law.

Joseph Rucker and John Seago, white boys, are two of the alleged victims of the illegal practices of Olsen.

The story of their shipment aboard the British bark Kambria and their subsequent arrival at Santos, Brazil, with all the harrowing details of the trip, has been told in the press.

Indictments were also returned against Olsen for shanghaiing Mose Smallwood and Joseph Esterlin, two of the eight negroes who were shipped to Bristol, England, on the Russian bark Alice.

Cream of News.

Brief Summary of Most Important Events of Each Day.

—The only marble building in the world devoted exclusively to Y. M. C. A. work was opened Wednesday in Columbus, Ga. It is the gift of the Peabody brothers, of New York.

—Dr. J. V. Jay, the Asheville, N. C., physician, who murdered his three children, was convicted Tuesday and sentenced to serve thirty years in the penitentiary.

—A special session of the Louisiana legislature will be held to provide means to fight the boll weevil pest.

—The \$125,000 desired as an endowment for Furman university of Greenville, S. C., has been secured and a bright future is predicted for the institution.

—Papers have been served upon Professor Borden P. Bowne, of Boston university, calling him to trial before the ecclesiastical board of the Methodist Episcopal church, to answer to the general charge of heresy.

—Judge Kohlsaat, in the United States district court, at Chicago, appointed Fred M. Blount and Albert D. Currier receivers in bankruptcy for the property of John Alexander Dowie at Zion City.

—It is probable that the United States will suggest that the question as to when and how Russia shall evacuate Manchuria be referred to The Hague tribunal.

—The house, after being in session for a little more than an hour Tuesday, adjourned until Friday. The time was chiefly consumed in a tariff debate.

—The sweetheart of one of the Chicago bandits is exhibiting herself at a dime museum. Mayor Harrison has protested against the exhibition.

—Continuing his revelations at Grand Rapids, ex-City Attorney Salsbury testified that corruption money was liberally used on aldermen.

—The commission which will pass on the appeal of Dreyfus for a revision of the sentence passed on him at Rennes, met in Paris Wednesday. A revival of popular excitement is likely.

—American Jews are no longer permitted to cross the Russian frontier without a special permit.

—The new canal treaty reached Panama Tuesday.

—Mrs. Onie Tanner, of Hall county, Ga., charged with poisoning her husband, Wylie F. Tanner, was found not guilty of the charge.

—After an absence of 54 years, Jacob Wesley Cloy, father of Judge John R. Cloy, of Augusta, Ga., has returned to his former home.

—Mr. E. D. J. Quigley, who accompanied Bishop Lynch to Rome on his mission in the interest of the confederacy, died in Charleston, S. C., a few days ago.

—Governor Jelks, of Alabama, has offered \$400 for the arrest and delivery of the men who lynched Tom Patton in Choctaw county.

—The senate committee on military affairs heard Major James E. Runcie, of Havana, probably the most important witness that will be offered by the opponents of General Leonard Wood in their attempt to prevent his confirmation to be major general. Runcie's evidence was damaging to Wood.

—Oberlin M. Carter, former captain in the United States army, who was convicted of complicity in the Savannah harbor frauds, was released from Fort Leavenworth prison Saturday morning.

—While President Roosevelt was in New York attending a funeral, a harmless crank eluded five hundred policemen and presented him a letter in regard to a panacea.

—Harvey Vandine and Peter Niedemeyer, accused of sensational murders and robberies at street car barns in Chicago, were trapped in a dug out near Miller Station, Ind.

—Near Jackson, Miss., four negroes, children of William Ellis, were burned to death, having been locked in a cabin while their parents went to a frolic.

—Grover Cleveland has written a letter to The Brooklyn Eagle, in which he states that he will not again be a candidate for the presidency.

—Preaching the annual sermon before the South Georgia conference at Sandersville Sunday Bishop J. S. Key took a strong stand against mob law.

—December 22 has been set by Judge Littlejohn as the day for hearing the suits against the stockholders of the old Bank of Americus, Ga.

—Owing to the disappearance of Manager J. W. Bowen, the English Tailoring and Weaving Company, of Chattanooga, has been closed and persons who were in on the scheme cannot get their clothes or their money.

—A committee has been appointed by Governor Terrell to raise funds for a Georgia building at the St. Louis exposition.

—Five bandits looted the bank vault at Brunson, S. C., Tuesday morning, dynamiting the vault and safe. They secured \$700.

—By the agreement of both the "prohis" and the "antis" in Hall county Ga., the proposed liquor election is to be called off in the interest of the peace of the community.

—The new wage schedule adopted by the Rhode Island cotton mills, which reduces the wages of operatives 10 percent, went into effect Monday. No strike is anticipated.

—Reports from Belcher, La., allege that three negroes were lynched near that place Sunday by an infuriated mob of citizens avenging the shooting of Robert Adger.

—Former First Assistant Postmaster General Heath says all charges against him in the report of Bristol and the comments of the president thereon are false.

SIGNED BY PANAMA

Another Step Toward Building Isthmian Waterway.

NEW TREATY APPROVED

Minister Esprilla Arrives from United States With Document in Charge and Prompt Action Is Taken By the Junta.

The steamer City of Washington, from New York, having on board the canal treaty, arrived at Colon, Colombia, early Tuesday. Senor Esprilla, the minister for foreign affairs of the Republic of Panama, arrived from Panama Monday night, and the treaty was turned over to him. He then boarded the train for Panama, taking the treaty with him.

On Minister Esprilla's arrival in Panama he drove immediately to the government palace where the chest containing the treaty was deposited.

Members of the junta and of the ministry assembled in the grand salon of the palace. The chest and two small tin boxes addressed to the members of the junta and bearing the seals of Minister Bunau-Varilla were placed on a table in the center of the room. Surrounded by the spectators, who were seated about the table, Senor Esprilla opened the chest and withdrew the cotton wrappers, finally bringing to light the treaty enveloped in the Panama flag. The document was addressed to the members of the junta by Minister Bunau-Varilla.

Senor Arlas then broke the seal and formally handed the paper to the members of the junta. There was only one copy in the English language. After discussing its provisions, the ministers and members of the junta all signed the document with a special gold pen, purchased for the occasion.

The treaty was signed at 11:33 a. m. There were no amendments. When every preparation had been completed for the final actual signing of the treaty, a government decree was adopted, setting forth that:

"Whereas, a guarantee of the independence of the isthmus has been obtained, and

"Whereas, celerity is indispensable to secure an efficacious and immediate fulfillment of this obligation on the part of the United States and, the junta of the provisional government formed by the unanimous will of the people of the isthmus and possessing full sovereign powers over the isthmian territory; be it

"Resolved and decreed, that the treaty be approved in all parts."

Two cables, one from the junta and the other from the minister for foreign affairs of the republic of Panama, announcing the approval of the Hay-Bunau-Varilla treaty were received by Minister Bunau-Varilla at Washington Wednesday afternoon. They are as follows:

"Panama, December 2.—At 11:30 a. m. the junta has finished examination and approved and signed the canal treaty.

"Minister of Foreign Relations." "Panama, December 2.—We are happy to communicate to your excellency that we have just ratified the Hay-Bunau-Varilla treaty without modification and unanimously. This official act has been received with unanimous approbation.

"J. A. ARANGO, "TOMAS ARIAS, "M. ESPINOSA, "Members of the Junta."

Minister Bunau-Varilla communicated the news received by him to Secretary Hay.

The treaty as approved and signed by the Panama junta will be promptly returned to Minister Bunau-Varilla at Washington.

To insure its safe and prompt transmission without interference by officials anywhere, the treaty will be entrusted to Consul General Guder at Panama, who will forward it to Washington in the American diplomatic mail pouch. Instructions to this effect have already been sent to Minister Guder by Secretary Hay.

COLD CARS CAUSE STRIKE.

Motormen and Conductors at Charlotte Throw Up Their Jobs.

About forty conductors and motormen employed by the Charlotte N. C. Consolidated Construction Company, the owners of the Charlotte electric railway, went out on a strike Wednesday morning.

The only grievance claimed is that the company refuses to heat the cars and they are tired of hearing the continual kicking of the passengers as to cold cars and of working in the cold.

DRUNKENNESS HIS PLEA.

Murderer Armstrong Testifies Regarding the Killing of His Cousin.

Nervous and wringing his hands, Ralph Armstrong, charged with killing his cousin, Miss Allie Armstrong, took the stand in his own behalf in court at Tuskegee, Ala., Thursday and testified that he knew nothing of the killing, admitting that he was drunk and had been in that condition several days.

DOWIE DEEP IN DEBT.

Self-Styled Prophet Said to Owe Three-Quarters of a Million.

A Chicago dispatch says: It is admitted by the receivers and their attorneys that the claims against Dowie for merchandise alone will aggregate \$500,000, and in addition to this amount there are mortgages on his property at Zion City amounting to \$125,000, which are due the first of next year. He owes \$100,000 to his brother in law, Samuel Stevenson, making a total of \$725,000.

ALIENS MUST DECAP.

Only the Faithful in Zion City Will Be Allowed to Remain Within the Precincts of the Town.

"All who have not Zion in their hearts, cannot come into Zion," is the order promulgated at Zion City, Ill., Thursday by John Alexander Dowie, through his chief of police. The order to the Zion guards continued as follows:

"From now on arrest or escort to the city limits every person who either is not of the faith or a United States official. We will bow to the government alone."

Following this order the usual force of Zion guards was doubled, many of them patrolling the outskirts of the Zion City with ponies. The lace factories, lumber mills and other industries continue in operation, and, contrary to expectations, Dowie's trade checks are taken instead of money in the general store, the Dowie institution in the hands of the federal receivers.

There was a rush for the general store Thursday that threatened to clean out the stock. Many who had exhausted their ready supplies of money and were unable to purchase goods with a "trade check" were in extreme need of food.

Investigation showed that the fuel supply of many families in Zion City is reduced almost to nothing. The extent to which the people of Zion City have beggared themselves is shown by a trip through the town. It would be a bleak, desolate place in winter, even if the houses were tightly constructed. Instead the settlement extends over an unprotected prairie that slopes to the marshy shores of Lake Michigan, and is open to the full sweep of the winds that come from the north or east from over the water. Many of the poorer people, the men and women who work in the factories, live in houses flimsy in construction and unfit to live in through a Chicago winter.

The walls of some are merely strips of tarred paper nailed on wooden frames. Other houses are simply tents made of canvas, while still others are combinations of tents and sheds. Not a few are partially constructed of the earth upon which they stand, something of the fashion of a dugout. From the chimneys of four out of every five of these houses not a speck of smoke could be seen rising. Hardly a single one of these shacks in which Dowie's poorest followers existed is stocked with half a ton of coal or half a cord of wood.

Federal Judge Kohlsaat has appointed Dowie temporary manager of Zion City's industries. This arrangement will be discontinued if it is found that the interests managed by him are not made to pay. Judge Kohlsaat also issued an order to the Zion receivers authorizing them to place \$100,000 insurance on the Zion plants, none of which heretofore have been insured, and to employ such help as is necessary to continue the operation of the factories. The receivers were also instructed to enforce the Zion City ordinances, so as not to offend the residents.

TROOPS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN

And Feudists in Kentucky Are Ready to Start Up Again.

Kentucky state troops left Jackson, Ky., Thursday under orders of withdrawal by Governor Beckham, after being on duty as provost guard since the feud trouble began last May. Many sensational charges are made as to the situation in Breathitt county. The most serious is that a letter purporting to be from Judge Redwine to Beckham for withdrawal of soldiers is a forgery for the purpose of getting troops away in order to start the feud again.

DEPENDENT ON IMAGINATION.

Reading of Christian Science Tracts Failed to Save Old Man's Life.

While his wife and daughter prayed over him and read texts from Christian Science tracts, George Thompson, a veteran actor, said to have been the first to play the part of Uncle Tom in the dramatization of Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, died in the rear room of a New York saloon Thursday.

WILDCAT IN WHITE HOUSE.

Unknown Georgia Admirer Sends Animal to Roosevelt as a Present.

According to a Washington dispatch some enterprising Georgian, as yet unidentified, has sent President Roosevelt a present, which has given no small concern to the people about the white house.

It is a genuine, full-grown wildcat, fierce of look and with big, staring eyes that frighten the white house servants as they pass the place where the animal is kept.

TYPHOID RAVAGES TOWN.

Diphtheria Now an Added Terror to People at Butler, Pa.

Four deaths and twenty-five new cases was the typhoid fever record Tuesday in Butler, Pa. Six new physicians from other places were added to the local staff.

The worst feature of the day's developments was the appearance of diphtheria in three of the twenty-two children who have fever at St. Paul's orphan home.

HAY TO RECEIVE REYES.

Herran Makes an Appointment for Colombia's Special Agent.

Dr. Herran, the Colombian charge at Washington, called at the state department Wednesday and arranged with Secretary Hay that the latter should formally receive General Reyes. The doctor discussed, at some length, with the secretary the existing situation, but left it to General Reyes to broach any suggestions looking to a settlement of the dispute between Colombia and Panama.

BRAKE ON SHIP.

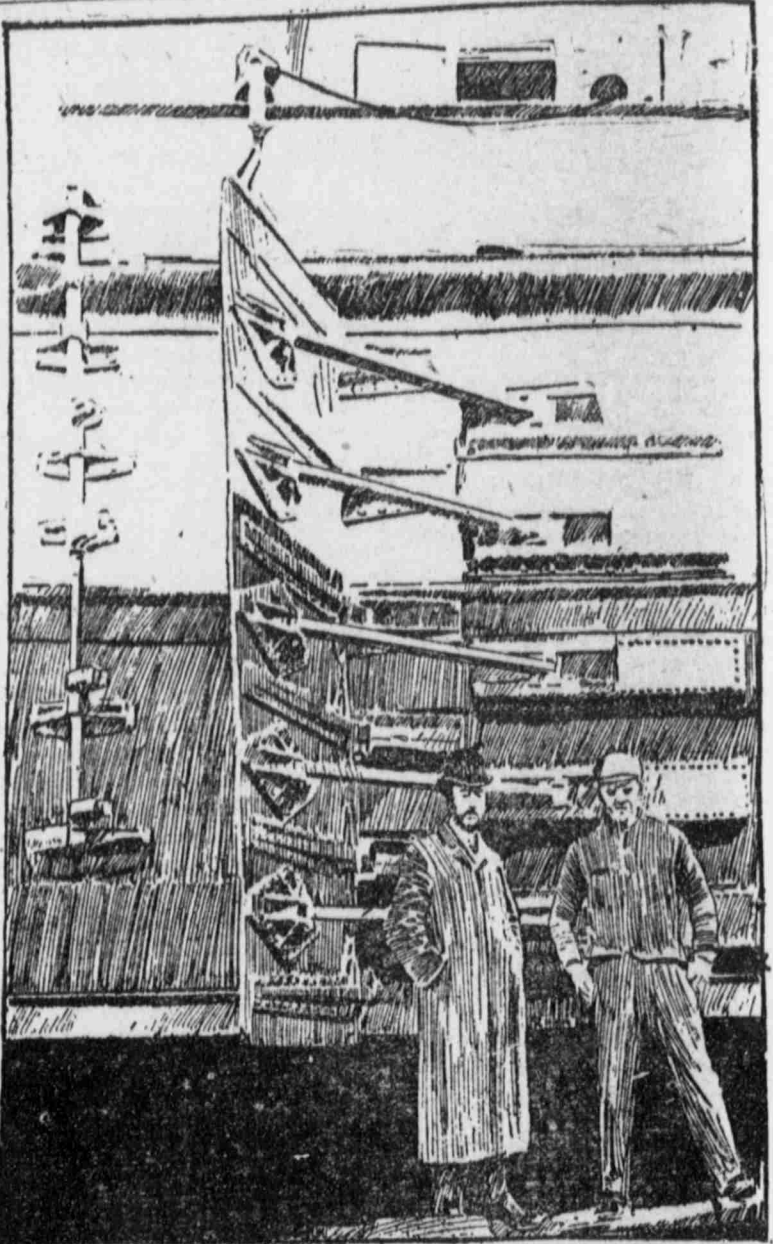
Brought to a Full Stop in a Very Short Distance.

Mention was made some time ago in these columns of the experiments made on the St. Lawrence River with a ship brake, and there is now given here with a picture of the device, taken from a recent issue of the Scientific American. During the tests referred to the steamer was driven ahead at an indicated speed of eleven knots an hour. Steam was then shut off, and, simultaneously, the brake on each side

Melts the Street Snow.

Machine For Disposing of the Winter Accumulation.

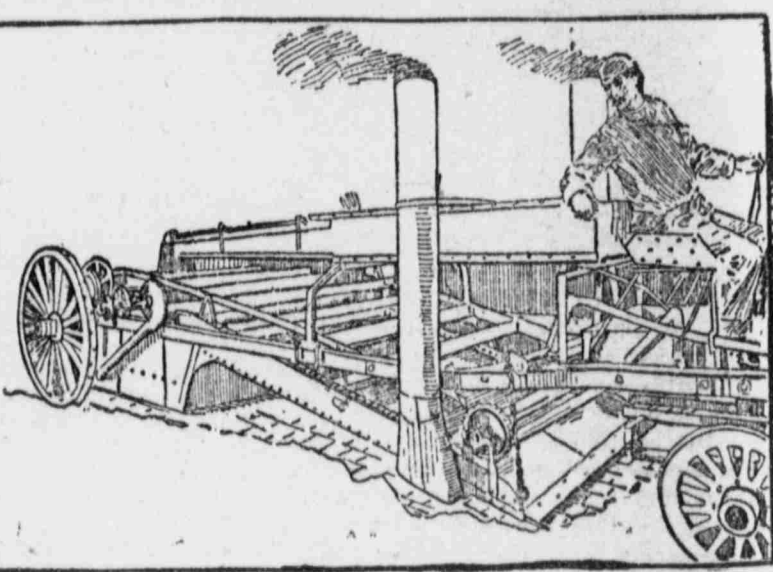
An improved method of disposing of the accumulation of snow, which is an increasingly important problem in municipal government, is shown herewith, from the Scientific American. It is designed to scrape up the snow from the pavement and at the same time reduce it to water, which flows off into the sewers. To this end the machine comprises a furnace, or heater, of peculiar shape, mounted to swing be-



SHIP BRAKE ON THE EUREKA.

opened. The vessel came to a full stop within a distance equal to her own length. The brakes were then closed, the vessel set ahead until the original rate of speed was attained, when the engines were reversed and the brakes opened, with the result that all headway ceased after she had gone but fifty feet—about half her length. In maneuvering the Eureka at full speed, she was turned also within her own length, with one brake thrown open. An examination of the hull and

tween the side rails of the frame, the forward portion of this heater is inclined downward and terminates in a shoe or scraper, adapted to scrape up the snow as the shoe is drawn along. The shoe may be raised, when desired, to prevent it from engaging with the ground, by means of a lever adjacent to the driver's seat, and having suitable connection with the forward end of the furnace. The smokestacks shown communicate with the forward end of the furnace, and a forced draft



METHOD OF MELTING SNOW IN CITY STREETS.

brake mechanism after the tests showed apparently no harmful strain or other damage, and in operating the brake no jar or vibration was observable by those on board.

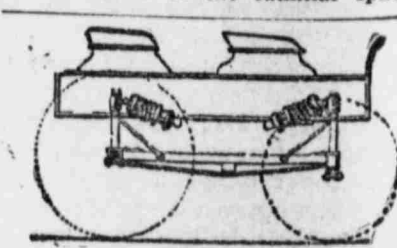
The method of operation is as follows: When it is desired to stop the vessel suddenly, as in the event of a collision, or when making a landing, the catches that hold the forward ends of the gate are released, and the gate is slightly opened by mechanical means. The pressure of water then catches on the forward edge of the gate, swings it out to the full-open position, sudden jar or shock being prevented by means of water cushions at the back of the slides. The movement of the brake can be controlled entirely from the bridge or from the engine room, as may be desired.

is provided by means of blowers having pipes leading to the asphalt. The snow scraped up on to the shoe is carried along the inside surface by an endless conveyor, and thus coming in contact with the heated surface of the furnace is immediately melted. The endless conveyors and blowers are operated by chain and sprocket connections with the rear wheels of the machine. Above the conveyor is a coil bin, from which a chute leads rearward, and is inclined downward, so that the coal may pass to the rear platform when the fireman opens the gate at the end of the shoe. Jacob Mandry, of Wakefield, N. Y., is the inventor of this machine.

NEW CARRIAGE SPRING.

The Familiar Flat One Discarded For the Spiral Coil.

The accompanying illustration will convey graphically better than words can tell a recently patented method of mounting vehicle bodies which allows the utilization of the familiar spiral

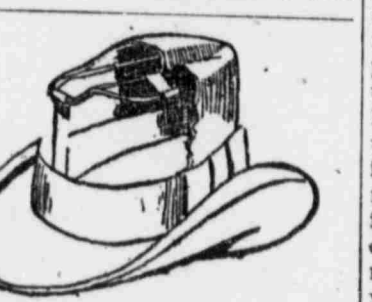


SPIRAL SPRINGS ON CARRIAGES.

springs in the place of the flat ones now so generally used for this purpose. The front and rear axles support upright standards, which are sufficiently braced to give greater rigidity to the under frame. The body of the vehicle is supported from each standard by means of helical springs, which are inclined inwardly toward the center of the carriage body, thus exerting radial pulls to prevent lateral swaying without interfering with their vertical yielding movement when the vehicle is passing over rough roadways.

The Government of the Transvaal has now decided that the present time is inopportune for the construction of new railways, in view of the scarcity of labor.

The human body, being lighter than the water of the Dead Sea, swimming in it is difficult, the head alone tending to sink in the water.



FRAME TO HOLD THE HAT.

when it was first taken from the hatter's showcase.

The comfort of the soft felt hat is recognized by all, but its one drawback has been the fact that it soon takes on a disreputable appearance from the lack of a little care, and in between there is every reason why a man should take as much care of his hat as any other part of his apparel.